

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks.

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| <p>or coating according to claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic polyolefin material is the thermoplastic polyolefin interpolmer, and wherein the thermoplastic polyolefin interpolmer is an ethylene/styrene interpolmer.</p> | |
| <p>31. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic polyolefin material is the thermoplastic polyolefin interpolmer, and wherein the thermoplastic polyolefin interpolmer includes the polymer units derived from one or more ethylenically</p> | <p>Original claim 1.</p> |

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| density of at least 2000 per square centimeter. | |
| 38. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the substantially solid fibril-like fringes have a density of at least 4000 per square centimeter. | Page 38, lines 16-18. |
| 39. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the substantially solid fibril-like fringes have a density of from about 4000 to about 15000 per square centimeter. | Page 38, lines 16-18. |
| 40. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the fringes have a minimum height of at least about 40 micrometers. | Page 38, lines 22-27. |
| 41. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the fringes have a minimum height of at least about 80 micrometers. | Page 38, lines 22-27. |
| 42. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the fringes have a minimum height of at least about 120 micrometers. | Page 38, lines 22-27. |
| 43. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the fringes have height of less than 600 micrometers. | Page 38, lines 22-27. |
| 44. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the fringes have height of about 200 to about 400 micrometers. | Page 38, lines 22-27. |
| 45. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 which is a film. | Original claim 1. |
| 46. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 which is a sheet. | Original claim 1. |
| 47. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 which is a coating. | Original claim 1. |
| 48. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein at least one layer has been orientated. | Original claim 5. |
| 49. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 in which the layer has been cured, irradiated, or crosslinked. | Page 3, lines 27-28. |
| 50. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein at least one layer is elastic. | Original claim 4. |
| 51. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 which has been | Original claim 7. |

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| subjected to corona treatment. | |
| 52. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the surface microstructure is on two sides. | Page 3, lines 28-30. |
| 53. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the surface microstructure covers a part of the surface of the layer. | Page 3, lines 24-25. |
| 54. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 wherein the surface microstructure covers all of the surface of the layer. | Page 3, lines 24-25. |
| 55. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 in the form of a mono-layer. | Original claim 1. |
| 56. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 in the form of a multi-layer. | Original claim 1. |
| 57. The mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating according to claim 1 in the form of a three-layer film. | Page 57, example 1. |

2. The §112, ¶2 Rejection

Claims 1 and 24-57 were rejected under §112, ¶2. The examiner objected to the terms “substantially solid” and “fibril-like” as vague and indefinite.

With respect to the term “fibril-like,” this phrase has been deleted from claim 1, which is believed to overcome this ground of rejection.

On the other hand, “substantially solid” remains in the claim. This phrase is fully supported in the specification at page 38, lines 5-8. This passage states that

The fringes are substantially solid aberrations, e.g., as opposed to hollow or partially hollow protrusions. This means that the fringes are compact structures substantially entirely filled with and consisting of the thermoplastic material forming the fringed layer, possibly slightly grooved at the top.

In light of the specification, the phrase “substantially solid” is neither vague nor indefinite. Accordingly, the rejection under §112, ¶2 should be withdrawn.

3. The §103 rejection based on STREET in view of GRUBER ET AL.

Claims 1, 24-35, 37-48, and 50-57 were rejected under §103 based on STREET (US 3,696,183) in view of GRUBER ET AL. (US 5,484,881). The examiner basically asserted that it would be obvious to use the poly(lactide) of GRUBER ET AL. in the process of STREET to form a fibril-bearing film. Applicant disagrees.

In the first instance, STREET neither teaches nor suggests a mono-layer or multi-layer film, sheet, or coating wherein at least one layer displays a surface microstructure wherein the fringes are substantially solid and wherein the layer comprises a

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combination of GRUBER ET AL. with STREET. Accordingly, the rejection under §103 based on STREET and GRUBER ET AL. should be withdrawn.

4. The §103 rejection based on STREET in view of GRUBER ET AL. and further in view of HEMMING

The examiner rejected claims 36 and 49 under §103 based on STREET in view of GRUBER ET AL. and further in view of HEMMING.

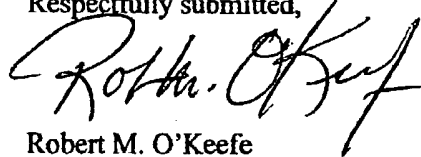
However, as discussed above under heading 3, the underlying rejection based on STREET and GRUBER ET AL. is incorrect and should be withdrawn. HEMMING does not fill the deficiencies of STREET and GRUBER ET AL. Accordingly, the rejection including HEMMING as a tertiary reference should also be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt Notice of Allowance are courteously solicited.

No fee is believed to be due; however, should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Deposit Account No. 10-1205/ADVA:011.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert M. O'Keefe", written in a cursive style.

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